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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/935,807	08/23/2001	Alejandro Wiechers	10005456-1	9602

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HEWLETT- PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

CHAU, MINH H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2854

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DATE MAILED: 04/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/935,807

Applicant(s)

WIECHERS ET AL.

Examiner

Minh H Chau

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6,9-12 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-8, 13 and 17-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 7-13 and 17-20 are objected to because of the following informalities:

With respect to claim 7-13, the language “an image” and “a plurality of printed sheets” as recited in these claims is a double recitation of the same language in claim 6.

With respect to claims 17-18, there is insufficient antecedent basis for the language “the print job command”.

With respect to claim 19 and 20, the language “a lamination finishing sequence” as recited in these claims is a double recitation of the same language in claim 18.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 6, 9-12 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Field et al. (US # 5,637,174).

With respect to claims 6 and 10, Field et al. teach a method for image formation through lamination comprising the steps of connecting a printing devices or printing system (24, 26) with a laminator apparatus or lamination module (28) and forming an image from a plurality of films or printed sheet (12, 16) with the laminator apparatus (see Fig. 1 and cols. 3-6 of Field et al.).

With respect to claim 9, see cols. 3-6 of Field et al. that teach the digital computer image system providing image instructions for printing image on films (12, 16) and the laminator apparatus (28) laminates the printed films (12, 16) together forming a complete image. Therefore, it is clear to one of skill in the art that, the above teaching meet the broad recitation of “forming an image with the lamination module based on imaging instructions” as recited in claim 9.

With respect to claims 11 and 12, see cols. 6-7 of Field et al. that teach the step of laminate a plurality of printed films or sheets (12, 16) to form a single image or a contiguous image.

With respect to claim 14, see Fig. 6 and col. 5 of Field et al. that teach the step of linking a clamping assembly or an arrangement unit (66) with the lamination module (28).

With respect to claim 15, see col. 5, lines 29-64 of Field et al. that teach alignment or configuring the plurality of printed sheets with the clamping assembly or the arrangement unit (66), thereby facilitating of the image.

With respect to claim 16, see cols. 5-6 of Field et al. that teach the step of aligning the printed films (12, 16) and laminate these films together by the lamination module (28). Therefore, it is clear to one of skill in the art that, the above teaching meet the broad recitation of “executing a lamination finishing sequence” as recited in claim 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-5 are allowed.

5. Claims 7-8, 13 and 17-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection above and in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-5 have been indicated for allowance because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a system comprising a lamination module including a module logic unit, the logic unit generating imaging instruction and the lamination module forming an image from a plurality of printed sheets based on the imaging instructions.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 7 has been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method for image formation through lamination including the step of receiving a print job command via a module logic unit provided by the lamination module.

Claim 8 has been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method for image formation through lamination including the step of generating imaging instructions with the lamination module.

Claim 13 has been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method for image formation through lamination including the step of forming an enlarged image with the lamination module from the plurality of printed sheets.

Claim 17 has been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method for image formation through lamination including the step of determining from a print job command whether a desired image is larger than allowable stand settings for the printing system

Claims 18-20 have been indicated for containing allowable subject matter because the prior art fails to teach the entire combination of a method for image formation through lamination including generating imaging instructions with the lamination module based on the user preferences

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Applicant attention is invited to the patents to Biddle (US # 3,068,140) and Wilfert (US # 4,999,065) that teach a method of forming an identification card or plate, which is relevant to the instant invention.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh H Chau whose telephone number is (703) 305-0298. The examiner can normally be reached on M - TH from 9:30 AM – 8:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

MHC
April 5, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MHC", is located to the right of the typed name and date.